

In the Specification

Please delete the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 26 of the Specification, and substitute therefor the following paragraph:

A<sup>1</sup>  
"The state of a tumor refers to the extent of a cancer, how advanced the tumor is in the patient (e.g., whether the disease has spread from the original site to other parts of the body). The stage of a tumor is generally determined by radiographic studies such as a computed tomography (CT) scan, magnetic resonance (MRI) imaging and/or ultrasound. Tumor staging is determined by one of ordinary skill in the art and can vary by tumor type or as a field advances, standard staging practices may change. Certain definitions of stages for various cancers are provided in the Dictionary of Cancer Terms which is a service of the National Cancer Institute. A physical location for inquiry or obtaining a copy of the Dictionary of Cancer Terms is: NCI Public Inquiries; Building 31; Room 10A03; 31 Center Drive, MSC 2580; Bethesda, MD 20892-2580.

In the Claims

Please cancel claim 9 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof.

Please amend the following claims:

A<sup>2</sup>  
Claim 1 (Amended). A method of detecting an activity of a COX-2 enzyme in a subject, comprising:

- a) obtaining a sample of the subject; and
- b) detecting a COX-2 specific metabolite of a 2-arachidonylglycerol compound in